



GRIPPING TALES OF SUSPENSE!

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AUTHORITY

NO 85 - JUNE

ADVENTURES INTO THE

UNKNOWN

10¢

WHAT TERRIBLE
SECRET PROCESS IS GOING
ON WITHIN HIS BRAIN? IT'S
--- **BLOWN THE MACHINE
APART!**

An AMAZING SECRET...
LOCKED WITHIN THE MIND
OF AN UNCONSCIOUS MAN!
FOR THE THRILLING SOLUTION,
READ **"IN the TORNADO'S WAKE!"**



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With Chapter On Sleight Of Hand
This book contains all the best tricks and deceptions with cards, including the latest tricks of all the top magicians. Each is especially picked so that it lends itself to home amusement and amazement. All simply explained. Chapter on sleight of hand is useful in detecting tricks while playing.
012.....**35c**



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You get two coins. One is ordinary, the other looks exat, but it has two heads. Do tricks, win friendly bets.
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Looks like real gum, but when they taste it, WOW! Burns their mouth, but only like pepper. Package of five sticks.
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203.....**3 98**

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Brass cover is placed on four nickels. Spectator removes the cover and four dimes are discovered! Other startling effects performed.
No. 215.....**\$1.00**



SILVER SKULL RING

Heavy Mexican silver ring with the raised face of skull and inlaid red ruby eyes. Feels good and looks really impressive. Adds heft to your hands.
566.....**\$1.00**

IN ALL THE LONG, DISTINGUISHED CAREER OF DR. ALAN HARLEY, THE FAMED NEW YORK BRAIN SURGEON, NOTHING REMOTELY SIMILAR HAD EVER HAPPENED! AT EVERY TURN THE MYSTERY DEEPENED, GREW MORE BAFFLING AND UNBELIEVABLE! YET THERE HAD TO BE A SOLUTION, AND HE DETERMINED TO FIND IT, EVEN IF IT MEANT ENTERING...

The ROOM That TIME FORGOT!

JUST LOOK AT THAT X-RAY, DR. HARLEY! AND THE LAB REPORTS! IT ALL ADDS UP TO ONE THING...HE'S NOT HUMAN!



HARLEY REMEMBERED WELL THE FIRST TIME HE'D SEEN THE MAN WHO CALLED HIMSELF "JOHN BROWN"...



EVEN BEFORE THE EXAMINATION, HARLEY WAS AWARE THAT THE PATIENT AROUSED PECULIAR RESPONSES IN HIM...



HARLEY DETECTED AT ONCE THE PRESENCE OF A SERIOUS BRAIN TUMOR! ALTHOUGH THE ONLY CHANCE WAS AN IMMEDIATE OPERATION, HE WAS RELUCTANT TO ANNOUNCE THE GRIM TRUTH SO QUICKLY...

I SUGGEST YOU STAY HERE IN THE HOSPITAL UNDER OBSERVATION FOR 24 HOURS...

IT'S FATAL, ISN'T IT? HOW MUCH TIME DO I HAVE?



THE PATIENT'S CHEERFUL MANNER AMAZED HIM...

FATAL? I...ER...I CAN'T SAY FOR SURE! BETTER WAIT TILL THE LAB TESTS COME THROUGH!

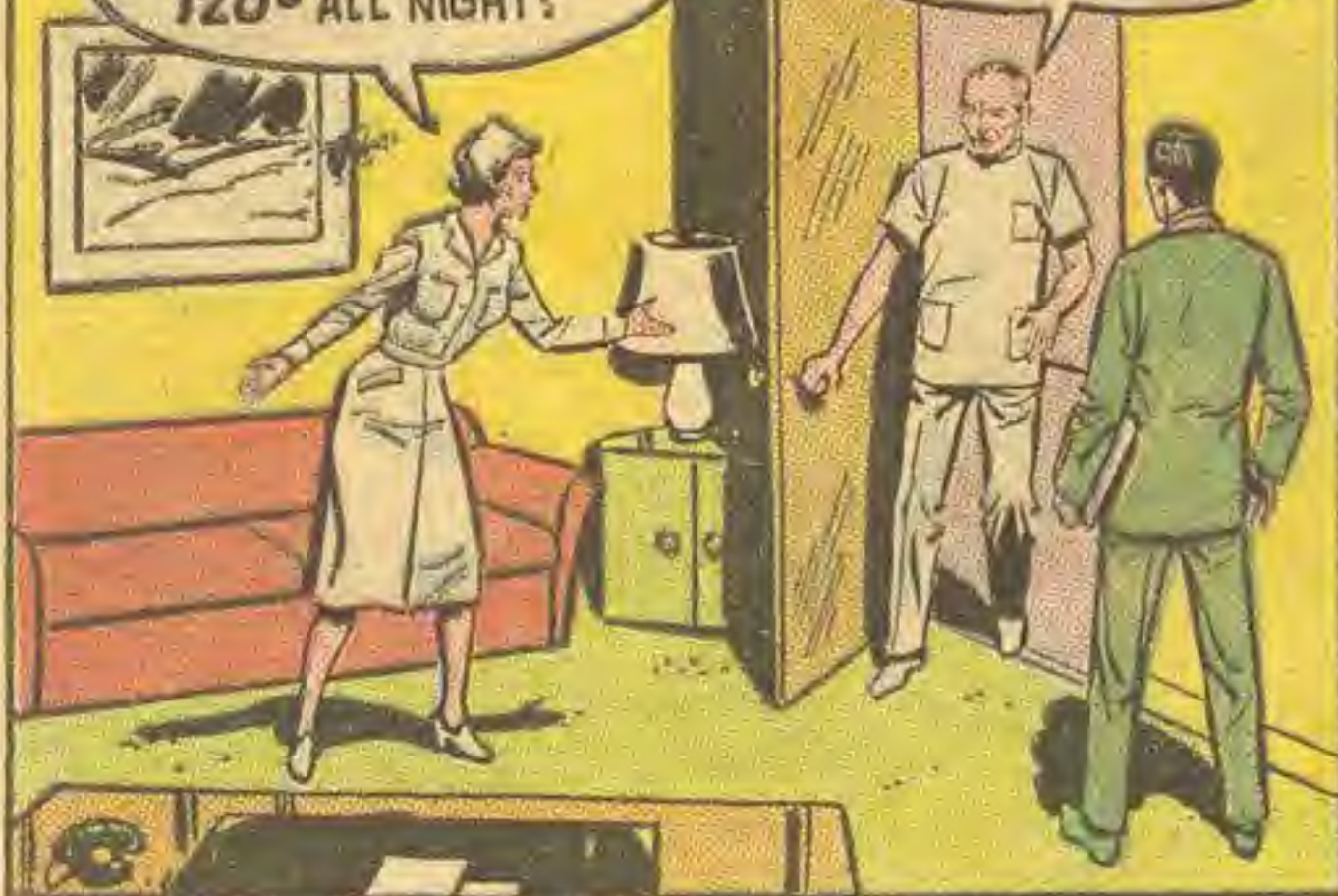
CERTAINLY! I'M ENTIRELY IN YOUR HANDS!



NEXT MORNING, HARLEY FOUND AN EXCITED LABORATORY PATHOLOGIST AND CHIEF NURSE WAITING FOR HIM...

DR. HARLEY! THAT PATIENT BROWN...I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY! HE RAN A TEMPERATURE OF 120° ALL NIGHT!

COME NOW, MISS BENTON... YOU KNOW THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!



IT MAY BE IMPOSSIBLE...BUT IT'S TRUE!

AND SO ARE MY LAB REPORTS TRUE! JUST LOOK, SIR! ACCORDING TO THIS...WELL... BROWN CAN'T BE HUMAN!



DR. HARLEY QUESTIONED THE MYSTERIOUS PATIENT...

SORRY, I WON'T ANSWER ANY PERSONAL QUESTIONS! NOW ABOUT THAT BRAIN OPERATION...IS THERE ANY DANGER?

IN THE CURRENT STATE OF MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE, THERE'S ALWAYS DANGER IN SO DELICATE A CASE!



IN THAT CASE, LET'S FORGET IT... I'LL GO!

I'M AFRAID YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! IF YOU DON'T UNDERGO SURGERY...YOU'LL PERISH WITHIN A YEAR!



I'M SORRY TO BE SO BLUNT! PERHAPS SOME DAY MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE MAY GUARANTEE YOUR LIFE...BUT NOT NOW!

I'VE WAITED A LONG TIME, DR. HARLEY... I CAN WAIT LONGER!



FOR THE REST OF THE AFTERNOON, HARLEY WAS UNABLE TO CONCENTRATE! HE STARED OUT THE WINDOW BY THE HOUR, BROODING...

THIS IS **FANTASTIC!** IMPOSSIBLE LAB REPORTS, DOOMED FOR SURE... AND YET THE MAN REFUSED AN OPERATION AND WAS QUITE CHEERFUL! I'VE GOT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THIS CASE... **GOT TO!**



TORMENTED WITH CURIOSITY, HE BEGAN CALLING THE AIRLINES...

YOU **HAVE** GOT A JOHN BROWN SCHEDULED TO FLY TO CHILE TONIGHT? THEN RESERVE A SEAT FOR ME... DR. ALAN HARLEY!



WHAT IN THE...! WHAT ARE **YOU** DOING HERE?

I'M COMING ALONG, BROWN... OR WHATEVER YOUR REAL NAME IS! YOU'RE NOT GETTING OUT OF MY SIGHT TILL I FIND OUT **WHAT'S GOING ON!**



AS THE GREAT FOUR-ENGINE PLANE TOOK OFF...

CAN'T SAY I BLAME YOU FOR BEING SO CURIOUS!

MY CURIOSITY IS ENTIRELY SCIENTIFIC! WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO **HIDE?**



BROWN SEEMED TO THINK MATTERS OVER... THEN...

ALL RIGHT, I WILL TELL YOU ABOUT MYSELF... **COMPLETELY!** THERE'S NO DANGER, SINCE YOU WON'T BELIEVE WHAT I SAY ANYWAY! IT'LL BE AN INTERESTING WAY TO PASS THE TIME!



GO ON, I'M LISTENING!

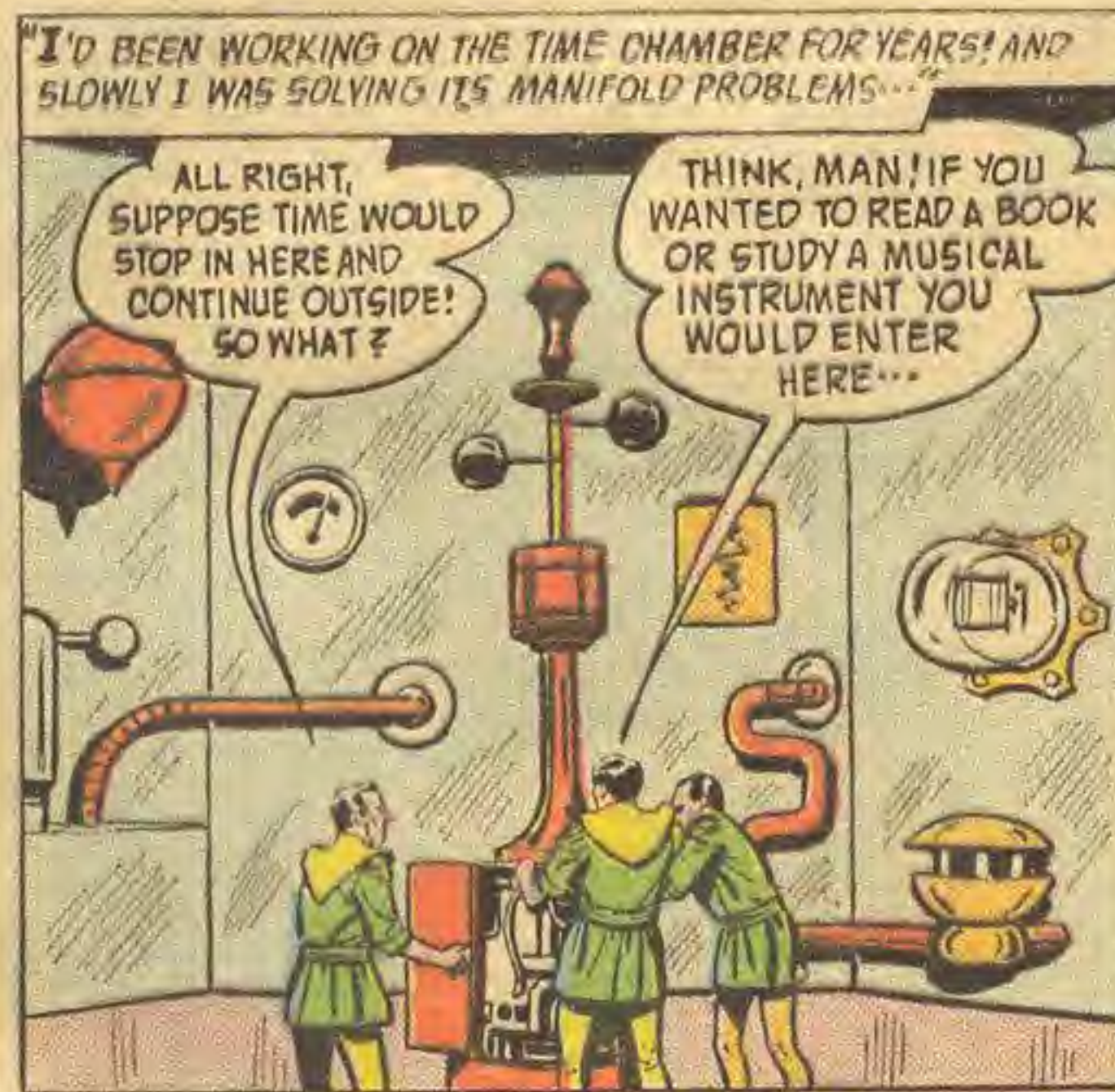
WELL... MY REAL NAME IS... **IKATU!** IT MAY SOUND STRANGE TO YOU, BUT IT WAS A COMMON NAME WHEN I WAS BORN... **800,000 YEARS AGO!**



AS THE FAMED DOCTOR LISTENED IN TOTAL AMAZEMENT, THE STORY PROCEEDED! "YES, 800,000 YEARS AGO... WHEN A GREAT CIVILIZATION FLOURISHED IN CHILE..."



"OUR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WERE BRILLIANT, AND I WAS CONSIDERED THE FOREMOST PHYSICIST OF THE ERA..."



"AT LAST I PARTIALLY SUCCEEDED---BUT MY CHAMBER HAD A MOST SERIOUS FLAW---"



OUR CALCULATIONS SHOW THAT ONCE THE MAIN DOOR IS SEALED IT WON'T OPEN FOR A CENTURY---SPEAKING OF OUTSIDE TIME, OF COURSE!

WHICH MAKES THE MECHANISM USELESS!

WHO'D WANT TO BE SEALED IN HERE FOR 100 YEARS? WHEN HE EMERGED, ALL HIS FRIENDS AND RELATIVES WOULD BE GONE---EVEN THOUGH HE WOULDN'T BE A SECOND OLDER!



WE'LL JUST HAVE TO KEEP WORKING TO SHORTEN THE INTERVAL!

"FOR MONTHS I WORKED DAY AND NIGHT TRYING TO SOLVE THESE FIENDISHLY DIFFICULT PROBLEMS, PROVE MYSELF WITHOUT MERCY---"



GOT TO MAKE THE TIME MECHANISM OPERATE FOR A FEW HOURS---NOT 100 YEARS! OH-HH---ANOTHER BLINDING HEADACHE---

"SOON MY RECURRENT HEADACHES DROVE ME TO A DOCTOR, WHERE I HEARD THE WORST OF ALL POSSIBLE NEWS---"



I'M SORRY, IKATU---IT'S A TUMOR! UNFORTUNATELY, OUR SURGICAL TECHNIQUES AREN'T AS ADVANCED AS OUR OTHER SCIENCES! PERHAPS 50 YEARS FROM NOW WE MIGHT SAVE YOU---

YOU---YOU MEAN I--- I'M DOOMED?

"I WAS GIVEN LESS THAN A YEAR TO LIVE! LIKE A SLEEPWALKER, I TRAMPED AIMLESSLY ABOUT THE CITY---"



IT'S SO UNFAIR! HE SAID 50 YEARS FROM NOW, THEY MIGHT ---GREAT GUNS! OF COURSE! I'VE GOT THE PERFECT SOLUTION!

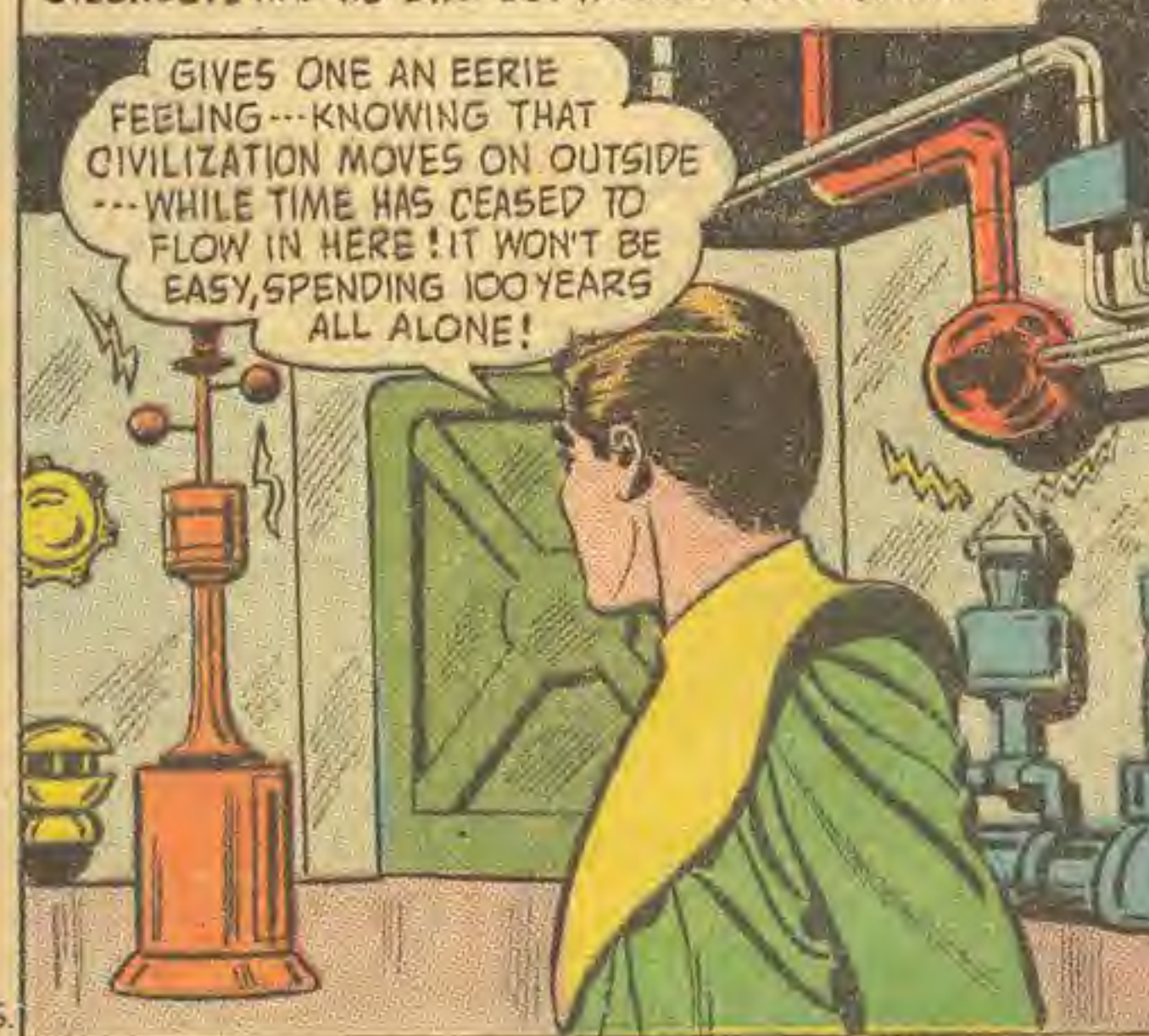
"WITHIN DAYS I'D MADE MY PREPARATIONS---"



WE---WE'LL NEVER SEE YOU AGAIN--- BUT IT'S THE ONLY WAY!

YES, FOR WHEN I EMERGE FROM THE TIME CHAMBER IN A CENTURY, YOU WILL ALL BE GONE! BUT PERHAPS THEN SCIENCE CAN SAVE ME! FAREWELL!

"THE TRITIUM DOOR CLOSED BEHIND ME, AND ALL WAS SILENCE! I HAD NO ONE BUT MYSELF FOR COMPANY---"



GIVES ONE AN EERIE FEELING---KNOWING THAT CIVILIZATION MOVES ON OUTSIDE ---WHILE TIME HAS CEASED TO FLOW IN HERE! IT WON'T BE EASY, SPENDING 100 YEARS ALL ALONE!





ON THE FREEZING MOUNTAIN SLOPE, AS THE NIGHT PASSED SLOWLY---



I---I
FEEL ILL
---VERY
ILL!

YOU DON'T
LOOK VERY
WELL! YOU
SEEM TO
BE---

IKATU, WHO HAD BEEN OUT OF THE TIME CHAMBER FOR MORE THAN A WEEK-- LONGER THAN HE'D EVER BEEN BEFORE --SUDDENLY BEGAN TO UNDERGO A FANTASTIC TRANSFORMATION---



WH-WHAT'S
HAPPENING
---TO ME?

YOUR FACE---
IT'S SHRIVELING
UP!

BEFORE THE HORRIFIED EYES OF THE OTHER PASSENGERS---



IT---IT'S
AWFUL!
WHAT'S THE
MATTER WITH
HIM?

THE---THE CHAMBER
---YOU MUST DESTROY
IT! IT'S---NO GOOD!

AS THE INCREDIBLY WIZENED OLD MAN CROAKED OUT HIS FINAL WORDS---

ONE ONLY AGES MORE
RAPIDLY UPON LEAVING
---THE CHAMBER! I
DIDN'T NOTICE IT---
BEFORE! NEVER OUT
---MORE THAN--- A
FEW---HOURS---

WHERE
IS THE
CHAMBER?
TELL ME!



HARLEY BENT CLOSE-- BARELY HEARD THE LOCATION! THEN, THE ANCIENT BEING SPOKE NO MORE---



HE
---HE'S
GONE!

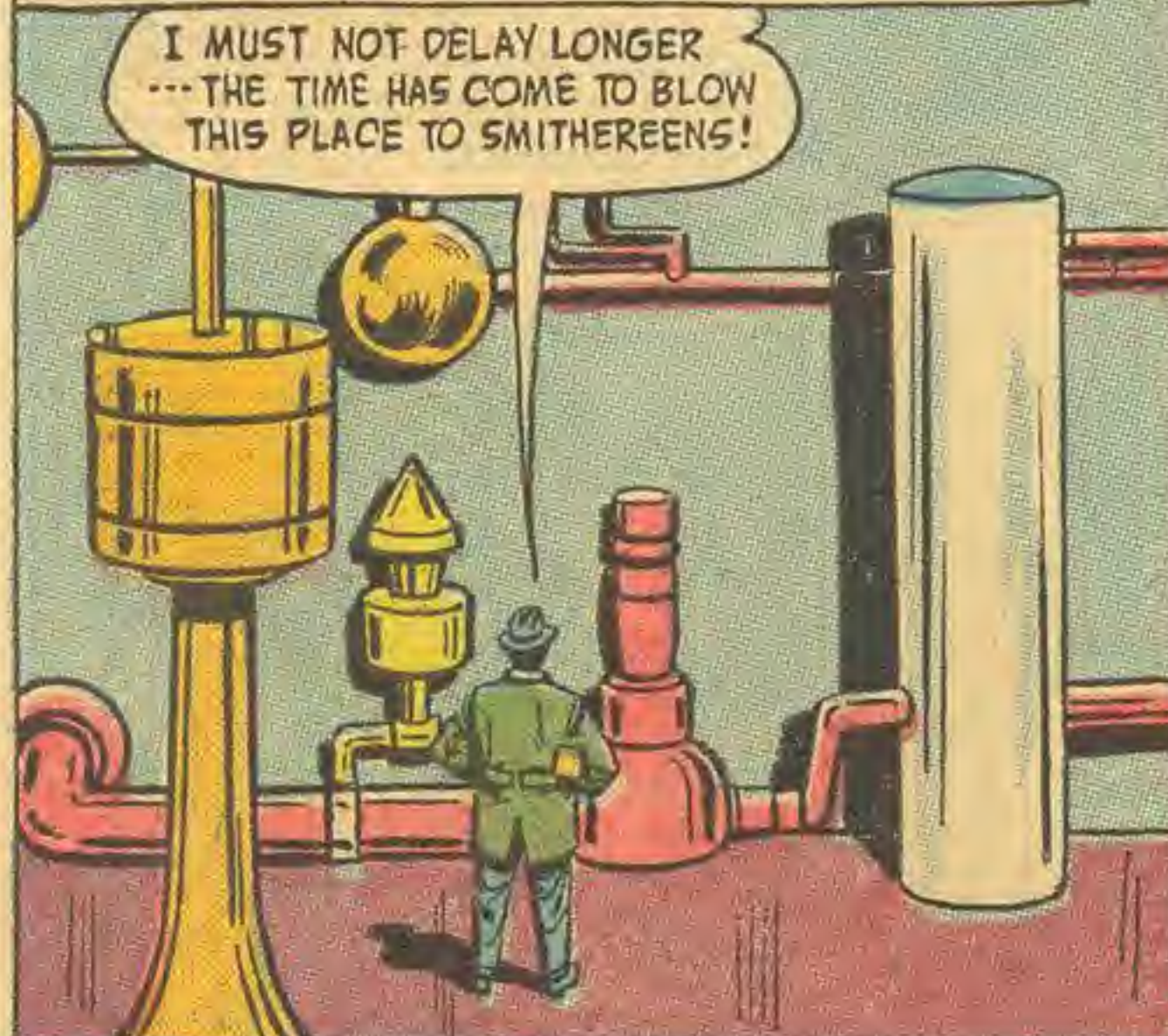
L-LOOK!
THAT THING IS
---TURNING TO
DUST! WHAT'S
THE MEANING
OF IT ALL?

WEEKS LATER---



THERE IT IS, AT LAST! THE
TWIN ROCKS WHICH LEAD
TO THE CHAMBER! IKATU'S
DIRECTIONS WERE
PERFECT!

FOR HOURS HARLEY COULD ONLY EXAMINE IN RAPT AMAZEMENT THE FANTASTIC EQUIPMENT WITHIN THE TIME CHAMBER---



I MUST NOT DELAY LONGER
---THE TIME HAS COME TO BLOW
THIS PLACE TO SMITHEREENS!

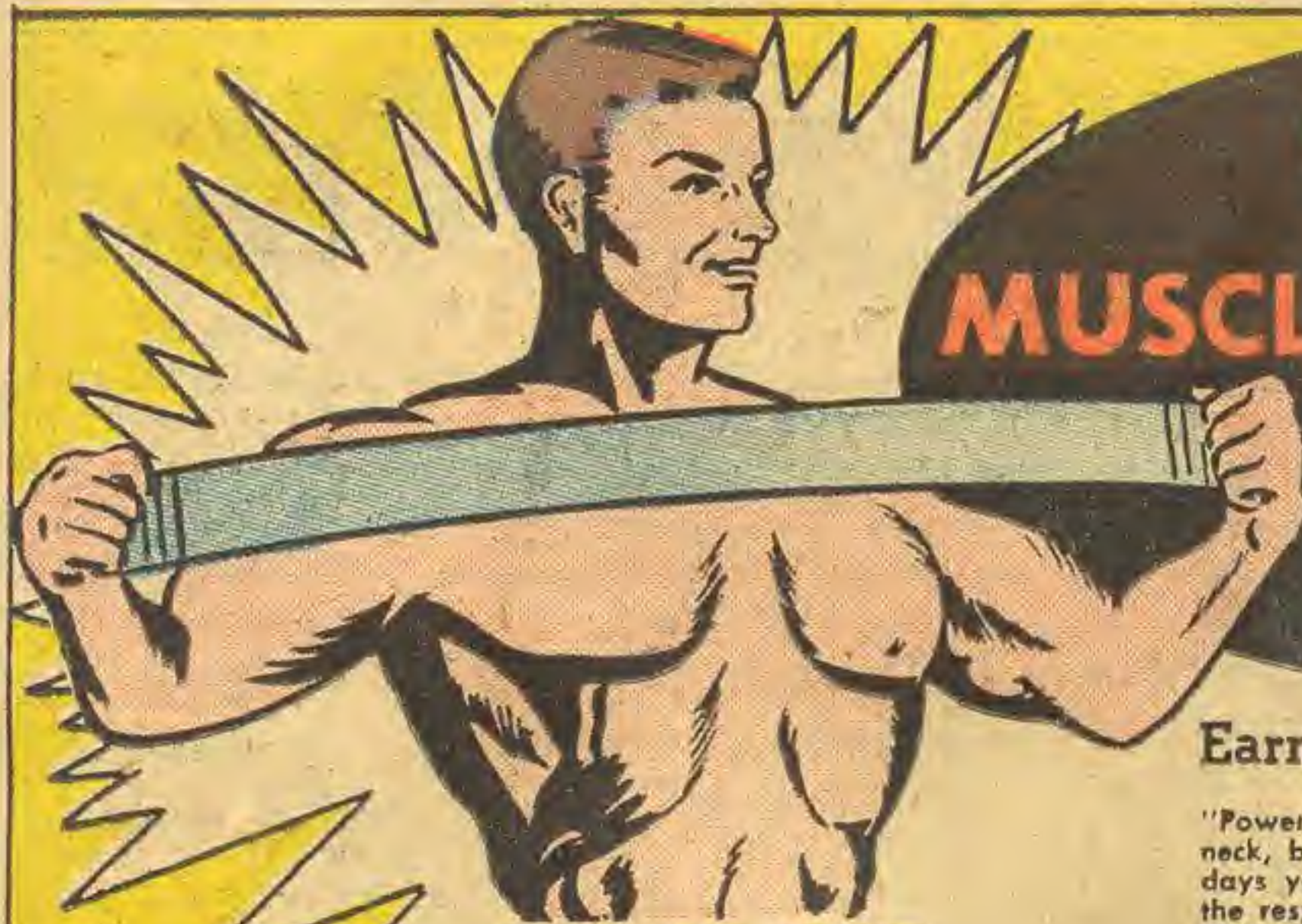


SCIENCE WOULD HAVE GIVEN
MUCH TO INSPECT THOSE
INSTRUMENTS--- BUT I AM RIGHT
TO DESTROY THEM! THERE ARE
SOME SECRETS OF NATURE
BEST LEFT---UNEXPLORED!

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BODY IN JUST 10 DAYS

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Lynbrook, New York

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TRESTLE ^{at} ROARING RIVER

To Fred Burness, the Galesburg & Anderson was just another railroad in his career as an engineer. He'd pulled the whistle on many a line, and this was the latest. He didn't feel the slightest bit nervous, despite the fact that this was his first trip on the Galesburg and the rain had reached almost cloudburst proportions. Nor was he apprehensive about the dangerous mountains through which the train must pass, for he was a thoroughly experienced and able engineer. But so foul was the weather that he was almost an hour late before his run was half over.

This would never do—not on his very first trip! So he piled on the speed, hoping to make up time. His headlight bored a hole in the black night as the roar of the wind and rain increased. He was approaching the trestle at Roaring River when he thought he saw something—a faint glimmer in the storm. He strained his eyes. There it was again—on the tracks! It was a lantern! The air brakes went on, battling the train's terrific momentum as the lantern loomed larger and larger and seemed to swell to huge proportions.

The train came to a stop inches short of the trestle—and in the radiance of its headlight, Fred Burness saw something terrible. There *wasn't* any trestle. It had disappeared completely, and the awful noise of Roaring River, below where it had stood, told clearly what had happened. The river was in flood, and had carried away the span. If he hadn't stopped just when he did, Fred Burness would have piloted his train to complete destruction, and every passenger aboard would have met a terrible end.

His heart went out in gratitude to whoever it was who had waved that lantern and saved the train. The lantern was approaching the cab now, and Burness looked down towards an old man with strangely old-fashioned walrus moustaches who was gazing at him angrily. "Ye call yourself an engineer?" the old man demanded, in a squeaky, high-pitched falsetto that sounded almost like a woman. "Trouble with fellas like you is, they're so crazy about keepin' their schedules that they take durn fool risks! Lucky for ye I sorta keep my eye on this trestle, and was able to stop ye in time." Then his lantern seemed to flash out with strange abruptness, and he was gone.

Shaken, Burness ordered a trainman to plant torpedoes on the tracks behind his train, so that the Limited, which wasn't too far behind him, wouldn't run into the rear of the stalled cars. And when the Limited halted, Burness went back to speak to its engineer, wise old Hank Williams.

"You were lucky you didn't go right over into the river," said the grizzled veteran. "If you had, it would have been the second time it happened on this line—and right here at Roaring River, too! The first time was in 1905—more than half a century ago! The engineer was trying to make up time and shot out onto the trestle—only there *wasn't* any trestle!"

"Guess I was a darned sight luckier!" said Burness.

"You sure were," retorted Williams. "There were over a hundred people killed. Reason why I know about it so well was that I was on that train, selling candy and magazines. I was a kid—a lucky kid to get out alive! They managed to get the engineer out—old Squeaky Ennis—but he died four hours later. I still remember how, before he passed out, he kept saying that he wished he could prevent a thing like that from ever happening again. Over and over again he kept saying it, raving about coming back and saving trains from the same risk at Roaring River. And then he died . . . poor old Squeaky . . ."

"Why'd they call him 'Squeaky'?" asked Burness.

"It was on account of his voice," Williams answered. "Squeaky and high-pitched—what they call *falsetto*, I guess. You know—kinda like a woman!"

Fred Burness felt his heart hammering strangely. There was a dryness in his throat which fought his words. "Tell me," he said, "do you—remember what he looked like?"

"Who could forget?" said Williams. "He was an old man, sort of old-fashioned looking, like. I can still see those walrus moustaches of his! Poor fella musta been touched before he died. I mean, saying he'd come back and save trains. Crazy, huh?"

Fred Burness didn't answer. You see—he didn't agree!

THE BATTLEFIELD IS A PLACE OF PERIL, FOR KNOWN DANGERS LURK ON EVERY SIDE! BUT IT IS THE UNKNOWN BEFORE WHICH ANY MAN CAN QUAIL... AND SO IT WAS WITH DON STONE, THE MOMENT HIS EYES RESTED ON THE SINISTER BATTLEMENTS OF...

The OLD CHATEAU!



DON STONE HAD BEEN ONLY A FEW MONTHS OLD WHEN HIS FATHER WAS LOST IN ACTION DURING THE FIRST WORLD WAR! AS THE BOY GREW UP...



AS BOYS WILL, YOUNG DON HAD HIS SHARE OF FIGHTS! BUT ONE OF THEM HE NEVER FORGOT...





YOUR FATHER WAS A **COWARD**! HE WAS A LIEUTENANT DURING THE WAR, DEFENDING A CERTAIN SURROUNDED STRONGHOLD IN FRANCE! WHEN THE POSITION WAS RELIEVED, ALL THE AMERICANS WERE DEAD... BUT YOUR FATHER'S BODY WAS NEVER FOUND! OBVIOUSLY, HE'D **DESERTED UNDER FIRE!**



FROM THAT MOMENT ON, DON STONE WAS A CHANGED PERSON! HE GAVE UP ALL HIS FRIENDS, BECAME A LONE WOLF...

WHAT'S WITH THAT GUY? YOU TRY TO BE FRIENDLY AND HE BRUSHES YOU OFF!

HYPOCRITES! THEY'VE BEEN LAUGHING AT ME ALL THESE YEARS! EVERYBODY IN TOWN KNOWS THE STORY--AND THEY THINK I'M A COWARD TOO!



THE YEARS PASSED SLOWLY, AND THE BOY BECAME AN EMBITTERED MAN! ON THE MORNING AFTER THE SNEAK JAPANESE ATTACK ON PEARL HARBOR...



I'M JOINING UP FOR **ACTION**... IF NONE OF YOU GENTLEMEN MIND!

BY JUNE 5TH, 1944, DON STONE HAD RISEN TO THE RANK OF 1ST LIEUTENANT! AS THE WHOLE ATTACK FORCE KNEW, ON THE FOLLOWING DAWN THEY WOULD INVADE EUROPE...

FUNNY, IN A FEW HOURS I'LL BE UNDER FIRE, AND I DON'T FEEL A THING! OR AM I JUST KIDDING MYSELF?... MAYBE I'M TOO **SCARED** TO KNOW HOW I FEEL!



FOR THE NEXT 23 DAYS, DON WAS IN CONTINUOUS ACTION! THE FIGHTING WAS SAVAGE, THE CASUALTIES HEAVY...



FORWARD, MEN!

KA-POW!

UNDER HEAVY GERMAN COUNTERATTACKS, THE AMERICAN POSITION BECAME EVER MORE DESPERATE...

LT. STONE, YOUR MISSION IS TO OCCUPY AN OLD CHATEAU AT THIS POINT AND TO HOLD IT **AT ALL COSTS!** IT IS A VITAL STRONGPOINT!

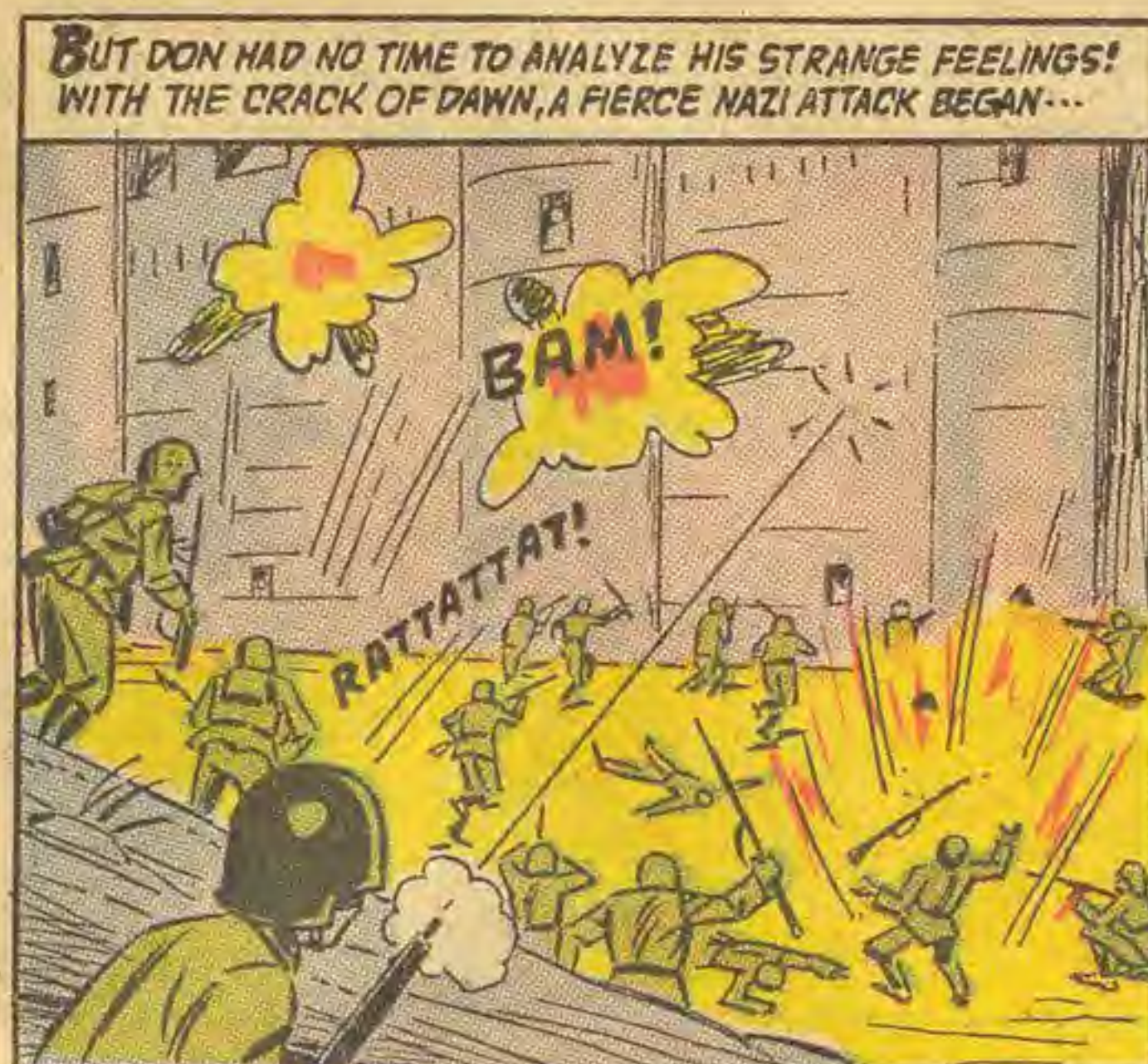
YES, SIR!



UNDER COVER OF DARKNESS, DON AND HIS MEN APPROACHED THE OBJECTIVE! BUT FROM THE FIRST MOMENT THE CHATEAU CAME INTO SIGHT, A STRANGE SENSE OF DREAD SWEEPED OVER THE YOUNG OFFICER...

STRANGE... SOMEHOW I FEEL AS IF I'VE BEEN HERE **BEFORE!** EVERYTHING LOOKS SO... **FAMILIAR!**





I---I'M A LITTLE
CONFUSED! TELL ME
WHAT THE SITUATION
IS---EXACTLY!

DON'T YOU
REMEMBER,
SIR? WE'VE BEEN
UNDER ATTACK IN
THIS CHATEAU FOR
THREE DAYS! AND
GENERAL PERSHING
HIMSELF SAYS WE'VE
GOT TO **HOLD**
THIS LINE!

GENERAL PERSHING! SO IT
WAS TRUE---SOMEHOW, DON
STONE WAS BACK IN THE PAST!
ONLY NOW HE WAS SOMEONE
ELSE!

**HERE THEY
COME!**

NO WONDER THIS
PLACE WAS SO FAMILIAR
TO ME! THIS IS WHERE
MY **FATHER** MUST HAVE
FOUGHT---AND RIGHT
NOW, SOMEHOW, I'M
HE!

THE BLISTERING ASSAULT CONTINUED, AND
SLOWLY THE DEFENDING TROOPS WERE
WORN DOWN---

ONLY FOUR OF
US ARE ABLE TO
HOLD A GUN NOW,
SIR! WE'VE GOT
TO ABANDON
THIS PLACE!

NO! THIS
POSITION IS
VITAL, AND
WE'LL DEFEND
IT TO THE
LAST!

AND SO LT. ARTHUR STONE WENT DOWN FIGHTING! THE
LAST SURVIVOR, HE STOOD HIS GROUND AS THE GERMANS
BROKE INTO THE CHATEAU---

**COME AND
GET ME,
HUNS!**

HE HELD OUT UNTIL HIS TOMMY GUN WAS EMPTY, AND
THEN---

ONHHHHHH---

BUT A FEW MOMENTS OF CONSCIOUSNESS REMAINED
BEFORE THE END CAME! AS IF FROM FAR AWAY HE HEARD---

THEY
FOUGHT
BRAVELY!

YES, THEY
WERE HEROES,
ALL OF THEM---AND
THIS WAS THEIR OFFICER.
BURY HIM IN
THE CELLAR WITH
FULL MILITARY
HONORS!

EVERYTHING TURNED BLACK---FOR
A LONG, LONG TIME! THEN---

WH-WHERE---?
GREAT SCOTT, I
---I'M **STILL**
ALIVE! AND
I'M **BACK**
IN THE
PRESENT!



The END!

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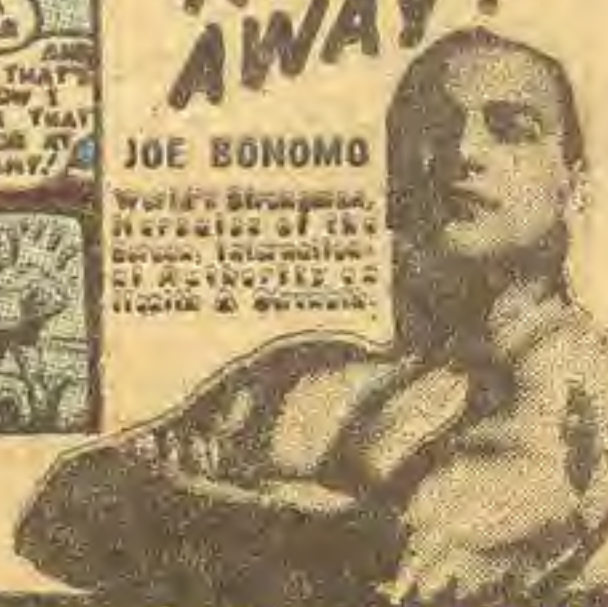
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It's sounding-off time once more for all you fans of "*Adventures Into The Unknown*," so step up and let yourselves be heard! We're going to bring to you herewith some representative opinions sent in by readers. And please remember that we want to hear from you. Whether you want to pat us on the back or register a loud kick, do so, please! Send your letters to The Editor, "*Adventures Into The Unknown*," 347 Fifth Avenue, New York 16, N.Y. And now—let's reach into this month's mailbag!

"Dear Editor:—

I've enjoyed '*Adventures Into The Unknown*' for some time, having started reading it when I was posted with the American forces in Berlin. But now I'm in Cyprus and can't get a copy anywhere. Could one of your many readers send me some of the latest issues? Congratulations on your wonderful book!

—Sgt. Bill Best, Cyprus."

We've communicated with several of our readers who have in the past indicated their willingness to pass along their latest copies in cases like yours, Sergeant. Happy reading to you!

"Dear Editor:—

I think '*Adventures Into The Unknown*' is the best weird story magazine on the market. My favorite recent story was '*Rosie In Red Russia*,' which was great. But just like August Henline, who recently wrote a letter of complaint to you, I think your covers are sometimes misleading!

—Gene Riffle, Dan'l. Park, Md."

We've been keeping close tabs on this cover situation, Gene. Most of our readers seem to like exciting covers, even if they don't follow the story exactly. But we'd like to hear more opinions!

"Dear Editor:—

'Adventures Into The Unknown' is great!

Your artists are the very best in the field, as are your script writers—three cheers for them! My favorite story in your No. 79 issue was '*My Fiancee Abigail*.' It had all the ingredients of a top story—mystery, suspense and humor. Me, I enjoy humor in my weird stories. Keep up the good work!

—Larry Wells, Wichita, Kans."

It's our feeling that as long as a story packs plenty in the way of thrills, it really helps to throw in occasional human touches of humor. Once again, we'd welcome hearing what more readers think on this subject!

"Dear Editor:—

In '*The Interstellar Sponge*,' Jan., 1957, your sponge is shown heading for Australia, but the statement had been made that the greatest peril faces Argentina. How about an explanation? To put it bluntly, I think your mag stinks!

—David Lawrence, Lomita, Cal."

Thank you for being so considerate, Mr. Lawrence. Obviously, you're perfect and can't make a mistake. Well, we can, and we did in this case, as we've pointed out several times recently. To put it bluntly, you might be a bit more understanding in your criticisms!

"Dear Editor:—

From the letter you published in the December issue, it appears that there are some who just don't appreciate the wonderful stories that you publish. But I'm letting you know that I'm one of the huge majority of your fans that do appreciate what you're doing and love the fine stories and art that appear in '*Adventures Into The Unknown*'!

—Adell Williams, Thomasville, N.C."

We appreciate your sentiments, Adell. But even if you didn't like our magazine, you'd be privileged to make your opinion heard. All we ask is a fair chance!

In the **TORNADO'S WAKE!**

THE NEEDLE IS JUMPING AGAIN... **VIOLENTLY**...AND HE'S **RAVING**! WHAT'S GOING ON IN HIS **MIND**?



OKLAHOMA, 1956...

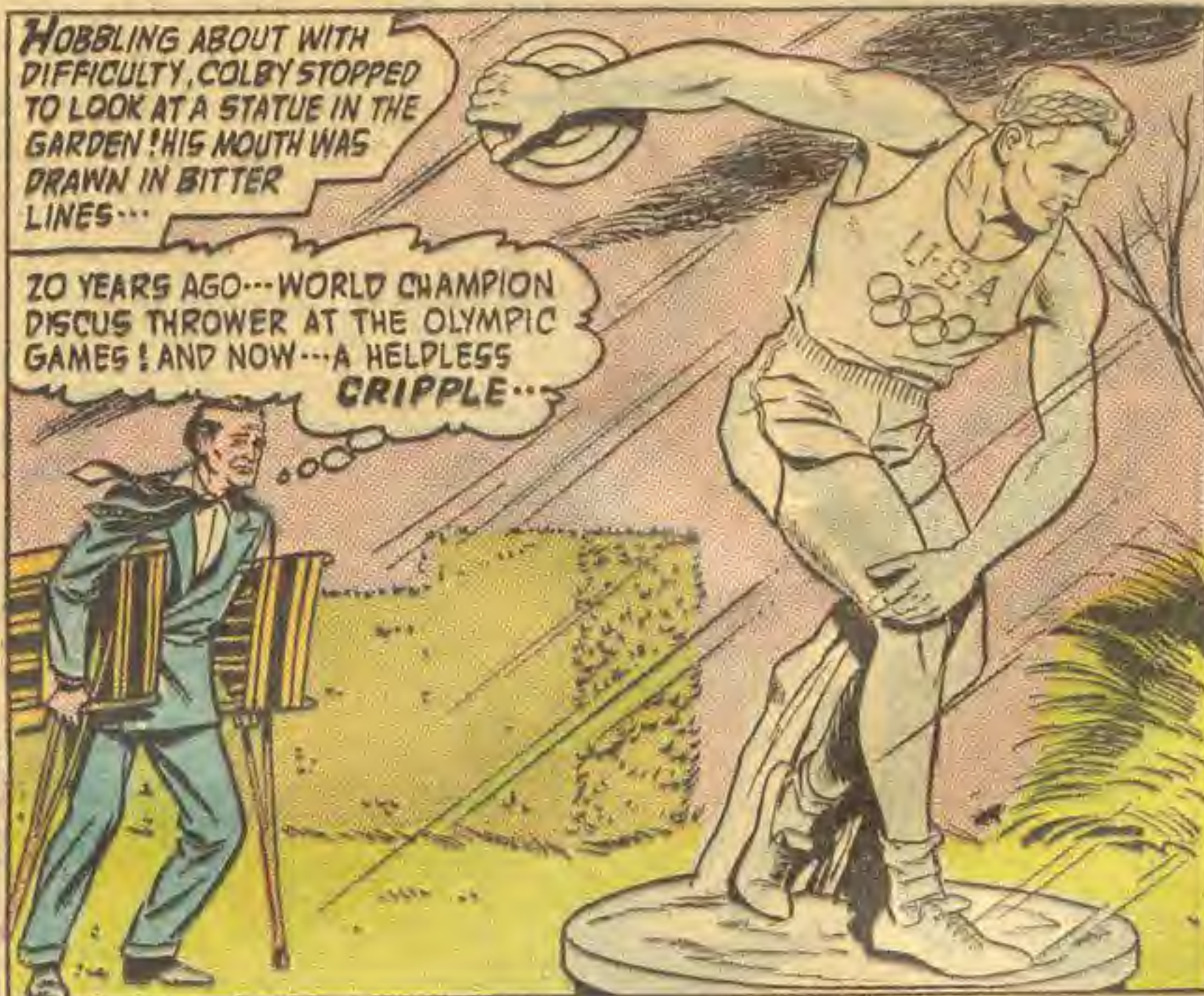
THE TORNADO IS NOW RIPPING ACROSS OKLAHOMA...ITS CENTER IS EXPECTED TO PASS ABOUT 75 MILES NORTHEAST OF TULSA!

GOOD HEAVENS, THAT'S EXACTLY WHERE WE ARE!

RESIDENTS ARE ADVISED TO TAKE TO THEIR STORM CELLARS!

I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE CROCKERY AND SHUTTERS, JACK...YOU COLLECT THE LOOSE FURNITURE IN THE GARDEN!





HOBBLING ABOUT WITH DIFFICULTY, COLBY STOPPED TO LOOK AT A STATUE IN THE GARDEN! HIS MOUTH WAS DRAWN IN BITTER LINES...

20 YEARS AGO...WORLD CHAMPION DISCUS THROWER AT THE OLYMPIC GAMES! AND NOW...A HELPLESS CRIPPLE...

AS THE SHRIEKING FURY OF THE TORNADO STRUCK IN FULL FORCE, JOHN COLBY'S MIND TURNED BACK, BACK ACROSS THE YEARS...

15 YEARS AGO...IF ONLY I'D LISTENED TO HER! SHE TOLD ME NOT TO DRIVE THE CAR THAT DAY...



YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO TO THE OFFICE TODAY, DARLING! THE ROADS ARE SO ICY!

STOP WORRYING, HONEY...I'VE NEVER EVEN SCRATCHED A FENDER!



ONE HOUR LATER, THE STORM HIT! HUDDLED IN THE CELLAR, THEY COULD HEAR THE HOWL OF THE RISING WIND...

I DO HOPE THAT STATUE OF YOU DOESN'T GET KNOCKED OVER... IT'S SUCH A LOVELY THING!

IT WAS TOO HEAVY TO MOVE TO SAFETY...TOO HEAVY FOR A WEAKLING LIKE ME TO BUDGE!



ICE...STEEP GRADES...A SUDDEN SNOW FLURRY...ALL CONTRIBUTED TO THE GRIM CATASTROPHE...

I...I'M SKIDDING! THE CAR'S OUT OF CONTROL!



THEY SAID I WAS LUCKY TO BE ALIVE...THAT I'D NEVER WALK WITHOUT CRUTCHES AGAIN...

JACK, HONEY...LISTEN! I CAN'T HEAR THE WIND ANY MORE...THE STORM IS OVER!



THE DAMAGE WAS WORSE THAN EXPECTED...

AT LEAST THE HOUSE IS STILL STANDING...BUT LOOK AT THE SHAMBLES! I KNEW THOSE STORM WINDOWS WOULDN'T HOLD!



LET'S TAKE A LOOK OUTSIDE!

IN THE GARDEN, AN ASTOUNDING SURPRISE AWAITED...

YOUR **STATUE**... IT'S GONE!
THE EYE OF THE STORM MUST HAVE
RIPPED IT RIGHT OFF ITS PEDESTAL
AND BORNE IT OFF!

THE ONE POSSESSION
I VALUE MOST...
WOULDN'T YOU JUST
KNOW THIS WOULD
HAPPEN?



FOR THE REST
OF THE DAY
COLBY FELT
GROGGY,
STRANGELY
WEAK...

I'VE HEARD OF THINGS SWEEPED UP BY
TORNADOES... BUT TO RIP A HEAVY
STATUE OFF A PEDESTAL...!

LET'S NOT TALK ABOUT
IT, EDITH... I FEEL KIND
OF... SICK!



SUDDENLY...

I... I... OHHHH...

JACK! OH,
GOOD HEAVENS!



HE WAS UNCONSCIOUS FOR A SHORT
PERIOD, THEN BEGAN TO BABBLE SEEMING
NONSENSE! THE DOCTOR WAS BAFFLED...

GOT TO
TAKE... GOLD
MEDAL...

I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S
WRONG WITH HIM, MRS.
COLBY! THIS CALLS FOR
A **BRAIN SPECIALIST!**



WITH THE ARRIVAL OF THE SPECIALIST,
AN **ENCEPHALOGRAPH**... A MACHINE
TO MEASURE BRAIN WAVES... WAS
ATTACHED TO COLBY'S HEAD...

I'VE NEVER **SEEN** A CASE LIKE THIS
BEFORE... SUCH ENORMOUS CONVULSIONS
WITHIN THE BRAIN! WHAT CAN
THESE
IMMENSE
DISTURBANCES
MEAN?



GOLBY'S REELING MIND HAD STUMBLER BACK TO HIS
YOUTH... TO THE MOMENTS OF HIS GREATEST ATHLETIC
FEATS! HE SAW HIMSELF AT THE OLYMPIC GAMES IN 1936,
EXACTLY AS IT HAPPENED... BUT WITH ONE STRIKING
DIFFERENCE...

I'VE GOT TO CRACK
THE WORLD RECORD
TO WIN THIS EVENT...
AND YET, I SOMEHOW
KNOW I'M GOING
TO DO IT... AS IF ALL
THIS HAS HAPPENED
BEFORE!



EVERYTHING TOOK PLACE AS HE KNEW IT WOULD... TO THE
SLIGHTEST DETAIL! LATER, WATCHING A RACE...

THE LEADER LOOKS LIKE AN EASY WINNER...
BUT I'M POSITIVE HE'S GOING TO STUMBLE
AND FALL! WHAT
MAKES ME SO
SURE?



WITH NO REALIZATION THAT HE WAS RELIVING A PAST EXPERIENCE, COLBY WAS BESET WITH EERIE SENSATIONS...

HES FALLING!

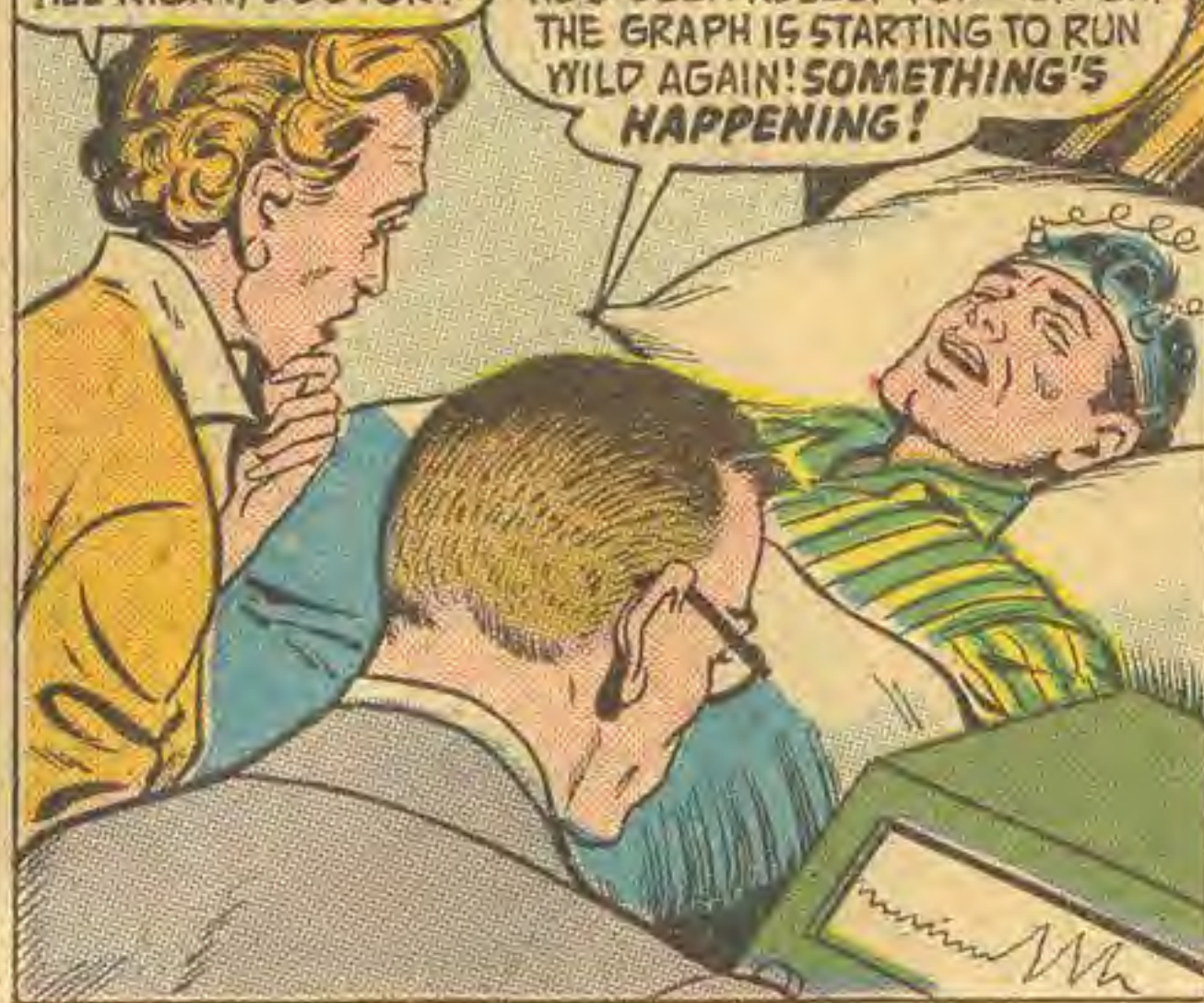
I-- I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT! IT'S LIKE BEING CLAIR-VOYANT!



THE NEEDLE OF THE ENCEPHALOGRAPH SUDDENLY CALMED DOWN, AND REMAINED STEADY FOR AN HOUR...

IS HE GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT, DOCTOR?

TOO EARLY TO SAY! FORTUNATELY HE'S BEEN ASLEEP FOR... OH-OH, THE GRAPH IS STARTING TO RUN WILD AGAIN! SOMETHING'S HAPPENING!



ONCE MORE, COLBY'S BRAIN HAD STARTED INTO FRENZIED ACTIVITY! THE PAST SURGED FORWARD AGAIN...

YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO TO THE OFFICE TODAY, DARLING! THE ROADS ARE SO ICY!

STOP WORRYING, HONEY-- I'VE NEVER EVEN SCRATCHED A FENDER!



BUT HE DIDN'T TAKE THE WHEEL! AS AN OVERPOWERING SENSE OF DREAD SWEEPED OVER HIM...

WELL... MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT! NO SENSE TEMPTING FATE... I'LL CALL THE OFFICE AND SAY I WON'T BE IN!



LATER, WHEN THE SNOW BEGAN TO FALL THICKLY...

I'M SO GLAD YOU DECIDED TO BE REASONABLE! I WOULD HAVE WORRIED SO!

FUNNY-- WHEN I WAS ABOUT TO GET INTO THE CAR, I GOT A FUNNY FEELING IN MY BONES-- AS IF SOME AWFUL CATASTROPHE WERE AWAITING ME ON THE ROAD!



THE WAVES ARE QUIET AGAIN-- HE'S BACK IN HIS COMA! MRS. COLBY, I'LL HAVE TO GET SOME SLEEP MYSELF! KEEP YOUR EYE ON THE DIAL... IF IT STARTS JUMPING AGAIN, CALL ME IMMEDIATELY!

I CERTAINLY WILL!



AS THE TENSE HOURS DRAGGED ON...

POOR DARLING... IF THERE WERE ONLY SOMETHING WE COULD DO! WHAT COULD HAVE CAUSED ALL THIS-- HE WAS IN FINE HEALTH THIS MORNING! GOOD HEAVENS, THE GRAPH HAS STARTED TO RUN WILD!



THE SPECIALIST WAS STUNNED BY THE LATEST DEVELOPMENT...

IT'S **INCREDIBLE!**...NO BRAIN HAS EVER BEEN SUBJECT TO SUCH VIOLENT ACTIVITY! IF THERE WERE ONLY SOME WAY OF **KNOWING** WHAT'S PASSING THROUGH HIS MIND! AS IS, I'M **HELPLESS!**

CAN'T YOU DO **ANY-THING?**



WHAT WAS GOING ON IN COLBY'S MIND? EVERYTHING WAS HAZY...HE FOUND HIMSELF LYING ON THE GROUND IN A STRANGE PLACE...AND NO LONGER WAS THIS AN EXPERIENCE FROM THE PAST...



WH-WHERE AM I? HOW'D I GET HERE?...GREAT SCOTT, ARE THOSE THINGS **ANIMALS?**

ALL AT ONCE THE PICTURE BEFORE HIS EYES BECAME CLEAR...THE FOCUS SHARP...

WHAT SORT OF CREATURE IS **THAT?**

HE CAME OUT OF NOWHERE! THIS SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE **SUPREME COUNCIL** IMMEDIATELY!



CERTAIN THAT HE'D GONE INSANE, COLBY LEAPED TO HIS FEET IN ALARM, WHILE THE ANIMALS BACKED OFF QUICKLY, AS IF AFRAID THEMSELVES...

YOU...YOU'D BETTER NOT RESIST! COME ALONG WITH US... QUIETLY!

NO...**NO!** I... I'VE LOST MY MIND!



PANIC-STRICKEN, HE BOLTED...

GOT TO...GET AWAY...FROM THEM! IS THIS ALL...A NIGHTMARE? RED GRASS...PURPLE TREES...STRANGE SHAPES...TALKING ANIMALS...



WHERE HE WAS RUNNING, HE DIDN'T KNOW...OR CARE! HE WASN'T EVEN AWARE THAT HE WAS **RUNNING**, THAT SOMEHOW HE WAS NO LONGER A CRIPPLE! ATOP A HIGH HILL, HE SUDDENLY PULLED UP SHORT...

A CITY! A FUTURISTIC CITY! I MUST BE...**IMAGINING** ALL THIS!



THERE HE IS!

DON'T MOVE! COME ALONG WITH US...AND NO TRICKS! THESE WEAPONS ARE QUITE ACCURATE!

I **HAVE** LOST MY MIND! AND YET, I HAD NO IDEA MADNESS COULD SEEM SO **REAL!**





INTO THE CITY HE WAS LED, WHERE NERVOUS INSECT CROWDS STARED AT HIM...

WHAT IS IT?

THEY'RE TAKING IT TO THE SUPREME COUNCIL! WHAT A TERRIFYING-LOOKING CREATURE IT IS! GET THE CHILDREN OFF THE STREETS!



MOMENTS LATER...

WHO ARE YOU? WHAT AM I DOING HERE?

SILENCE!...WE UNDERSTAND THE SITUATION THOROUGHLY, AND AS SOON AS OUR MESSENGER RETURNS, SO WILL YOU!



TO COLBY'S AMAZEMENT...

HERE IS THE STATUE, EXCELLENCY! IT IS HE, ALL RIGHT!

GREAT GUNS...THE STATUE FROM MY GARDEN!



WHAT'S THAT THING DOING HERE? I...I DON'T UNDERSTAND!

IT PRECEDED YOUR ARRIVAL BY SEVERAL HOURS! OUR MATHEMATICIANS WARNED US YOU WOULD BE COMING SOON!



SINCE YOU ARE NOT A SCIENTIST, IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO EXPLAIN THIS EXTRAORDINARY OCCURRENCE, BUT I WILL TRY! FIRST, LET US GO BACK TO THE TORNADO!

"THE STATUE WAS STRUCK BY THE STORM'S EXACT CENTER, RIPPED FROM ITS MOORINGS," THE CHIEF JUDGE BEGAN. "THEN, IT WAS FLUNG HIGH UP INTO THE AIR..."

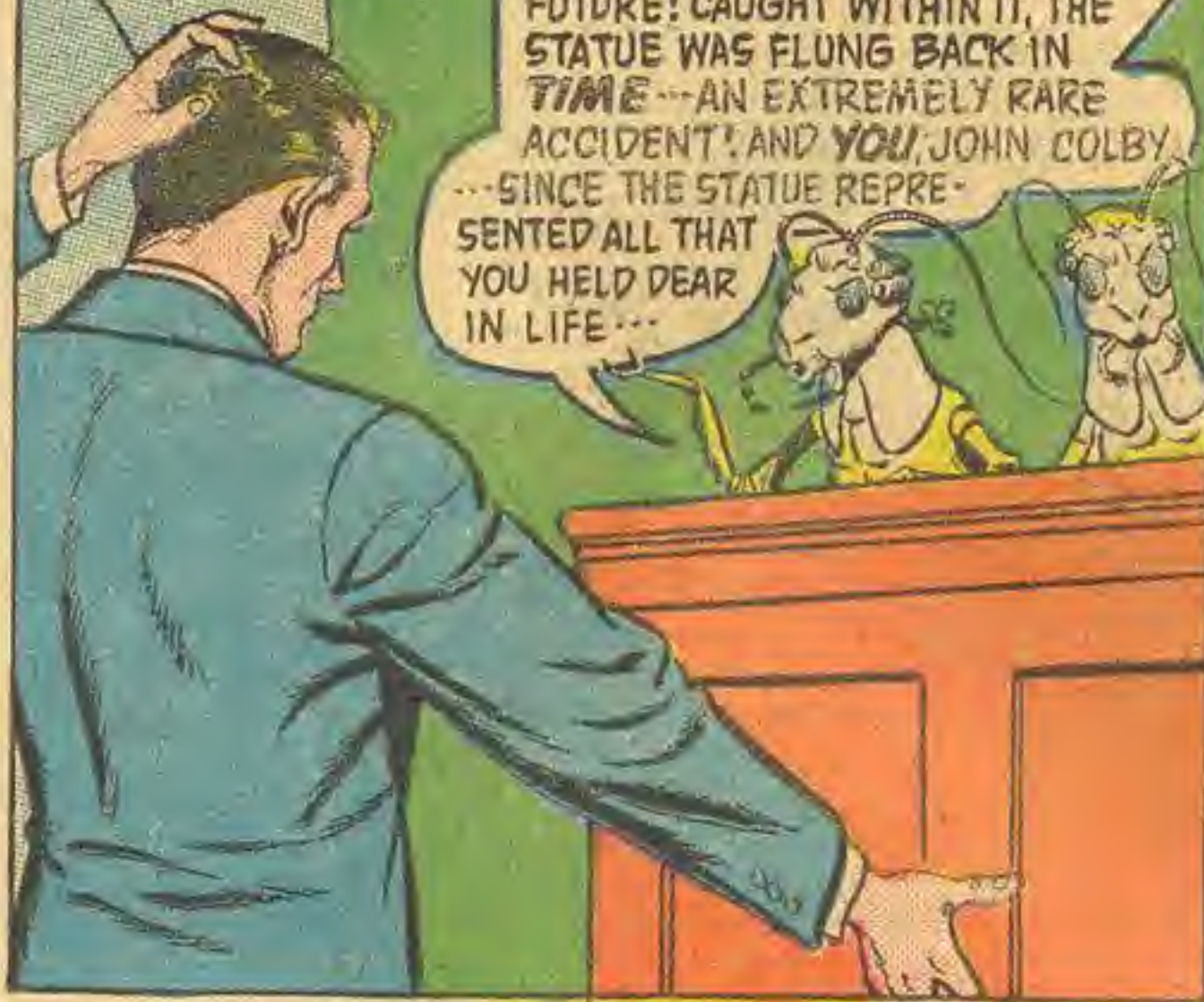


OOOEEEEEOOOEEE



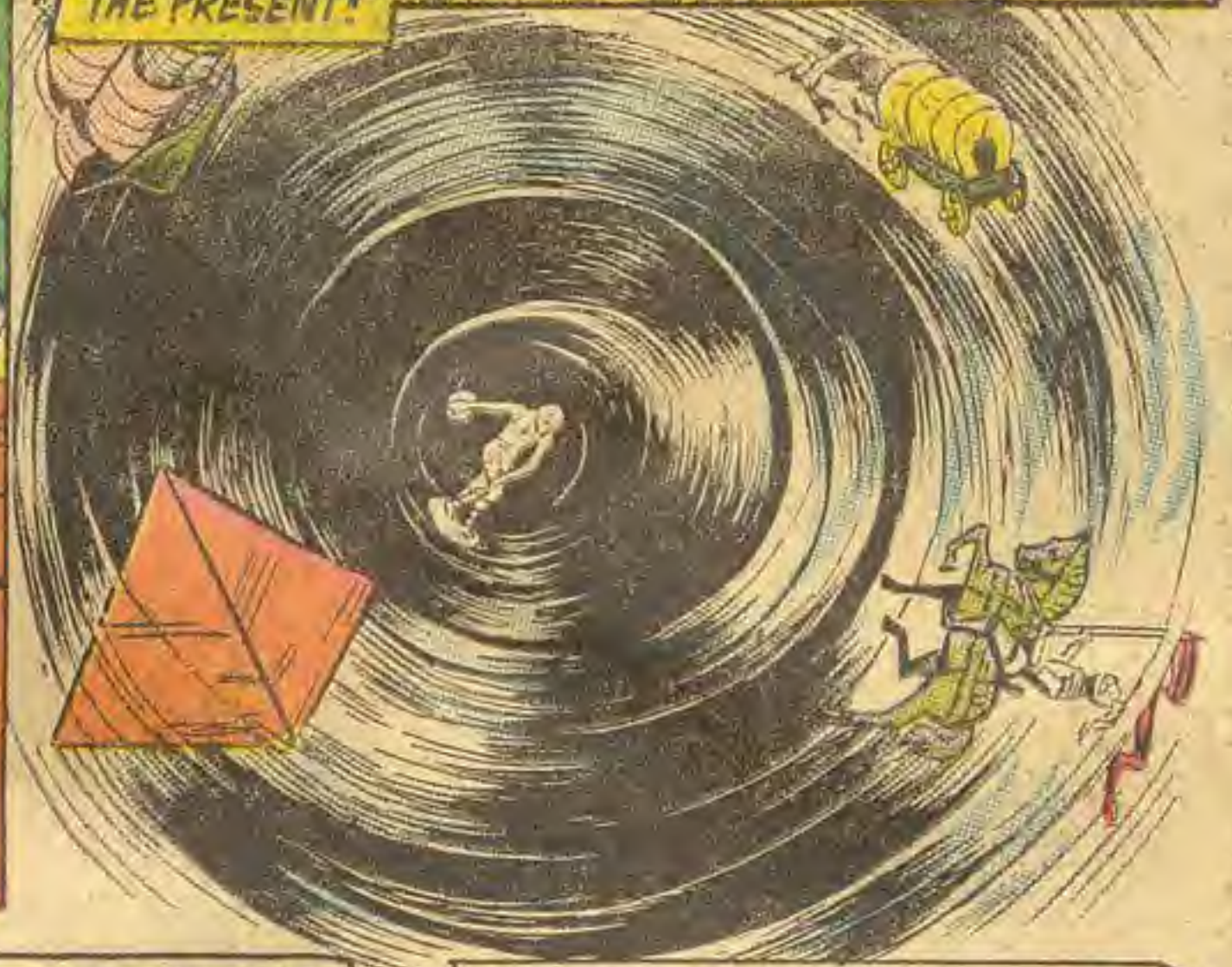
"BORNE HIGH ABOVE THE CLOUDS, THE STATUE WAS CAUGHT BY POWERFUL STRATOSPHERIC WINDS, CARRYING IT STILL HIGHER...OUT OF THE EARTH'S GRAVITATIONAL PULL! THEN IT BECAME ENTRAPPED IN THE TIME CURVE..."

THE...**TIME CURVE**?
I'M AFRAID I DON'T
QUITE FOLLOW!



THE TIME CURVE IS THE ACTUAL
RECORD OF TIME ITSELF...A BROAD,
CONTINUOUS BAND WHICH EXTENDS
FROM REMOTE PAST TO DISTANT
FUTURE! CAUGHT WITHIN IT, THE
STATUE WAS FLUNG BACK IN
TIME...AN EXTREMELY RARE
ACCIDENT! AND **YOU**, JOHN COLBY,
...SINCE THE STATUE REPRESENTED ALL THAT
YOU HELD DEAR
IN LIFE...

...SINCE YOU HAD IDENTIFIED YOURSELF WITH IT FOR SO LONG, A
MYSTIC BOND HAD GROWN BETWEEN YOU! THEREFORE, THE ESSENCE
OF YOUR BEING WAS PULLED ALONG WITH THE STATUE INTO THE PAST
...AND YOU **RELIVED** CERTAIN PAST EXPERIENCES! FINALLY, REACH-
ING A **BEND** IN THE TIME CURVE, THE STATUE RETURNED TO
THE **PRESENT**!



IN OUTER SPACE IT FLASHED ALONG
AT FANTASTIC SPEEDS, UNTIL IT
FINALLY CAME TO REST **HERE**...
ON OUR PLANET **MANTIS**! AND
BECAUSE OF THE BOND BETWEEN
YOU AND THE STATUE...
YOU FOLLOWED IT HERE!



BUT WHAT ARE ALL OF
YOU? YOU'RE NOT
MEN...AND YET YOU
SEEM INTELLIGENT!

SEEM INTELLIGENT? HOW DARE
YOU? HERE ON MANTIS, **INSECTS** HAVE
REACHED THE HIGHEST POINT OF
DEVELOPMENT, DUE TO OUR MUCH
LARGER SIZE AND BRAIN POWER!
AND WE WISH NO **COMPETITION!**



YOUR ARRIVAL HERE HAS CAUSED A
NATIONAL CRISIS...BECAUSE MOST OF
OUR PEOPLE **FEAR** YOUR APPEARANCE!
THEREFORE, I'M SENDING YOU **AND**
YOUR DREADFUL STATUE BACK WHERE
YOU CAME FROM!



WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
HOW ARE YOU GOING
TO...?

COLBY NEVER FINISHED
HIS SENTENCE! AT THE
FLICK OF THE SWITCH,
EVERYTHING DISINTE-
GRATED BEFORE HIS
EYES! IN WHAT SEEMED
THE NEXT INSTANT...



I'M IN...**OUTER**
SPACE! STREAKING
TOWARD THE
EARTH!

STRANGE, THE NEEDLE HAS
SUDDENLY COME TO **REST!**
THE BRAIN WAVES ARE
ABSOLUTELY **NORMAL**
NOW! WHAT COULD HAVE
HAPPENED?



DOCTOR!
HE...HE'S
OPENING
HIS EYES!

COLBY'S EYES WERE CLEAR, HIS REASONING POWERS PERFECTLY NORMAL...

WHAT HAPPENED TO ME? WHY AM I IN BED?

I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT HAPPENED, MR. COLBY! YOU HAD SOME STRANGE FORM OF **BRAIN SEIZURE!** TELL ME, DO YOU REMEMBER ANYTHING OF YOUR COMA?

WHEN HE FINISHED RECOUNTING HIS FANTASTIC HALLUCINATIONS...

SOMEHOW, IT ALL APPEARED AMAZINGLY REAL! CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT...

THE MIND'S A STRANGE THING! OPEN THE BLINDS, MRS. COLBY... LET THE SUNLIGHT COME IN!

DAWN HAD COME UP BRIGHT AND CLEAR! AS THE SUN'S RAYS FLOODED THE ROOM...

THE STATUE... IT'S BACK ON THE PEDESTAL!

WH-A-A-T! THAT'S... IMPOSSIBLE!

UNBELIEVABLE!

WHAT IS THIS... A JOKE? LET ME HAVE A LOOK AT THAT!

IT IS THERE! BUT HOW CAN THAT BE? UNLESS...

JACK! YOU... YOU'RE STANDING! YOU'RE STANDING WITHOUT YOUR CRUTCHES!

ONLY THEN DID EVERYONE REALIZE THAT COLBY HAD LEAPED OUT OF BED, HAD DASHED TO THE WINDOW, WAS STANDING AND STRONG! THE INCREDULOUS DOCTOR MADE A SWIFT EXAMINATION...

PERFECT... YOUR LEG IS PERFECT! AS IF... AS IF... AS IF YOU'D NEVER BEEN IN A CRUSHING ACCIDENT! BUT THAT IS IMPOSSIBLE!

NO... NOT IMPOSSIBLE! DON'T YOU SEE? MY EXPERIENCES WERE REAL! WHEN I WENT BACK INTO THE PAST, I CHANGED IT!

DON'T YOU REMEMBER WHAT I SAID? I NEVER DROVE ALONG THE ICY ROAD... IT NEVER HAPPENED... I NEVER HAD THAT ACCIDENT! THEREFORE, I NEVER BECAME A CRIPPLE!

IT... CAN'T BE TRUE... AND YET... YOU'RE LIVING PROOF IT IS TRUE!

The END!

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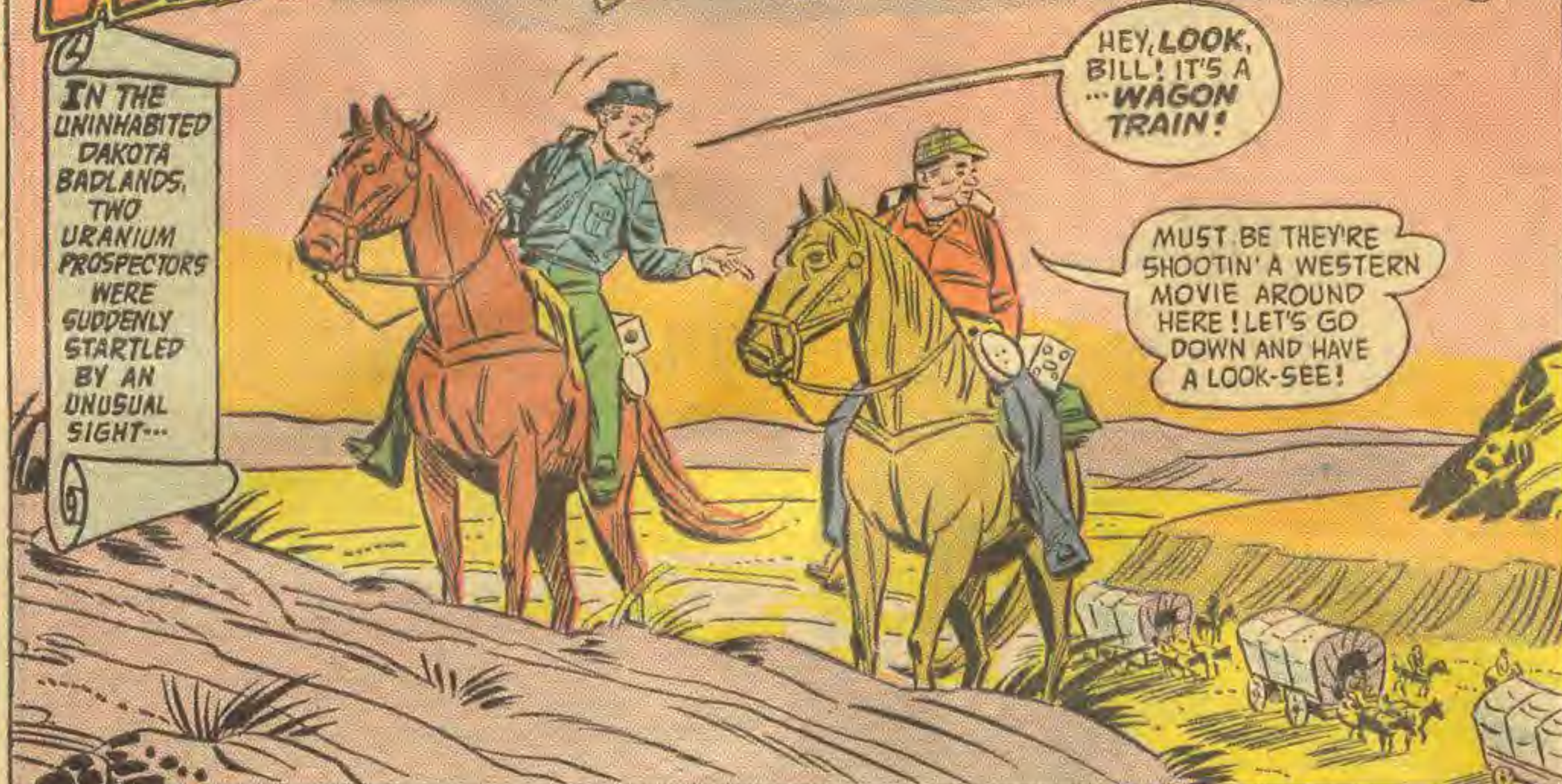
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The WANDERING WAGONS!



IN THE UNINHABITED DAKOTA BADLANDS, TWO URANIUM PROSPECTORS WERE SUDDENLY STARTLED BY AN UNUSUAL SIGHT...

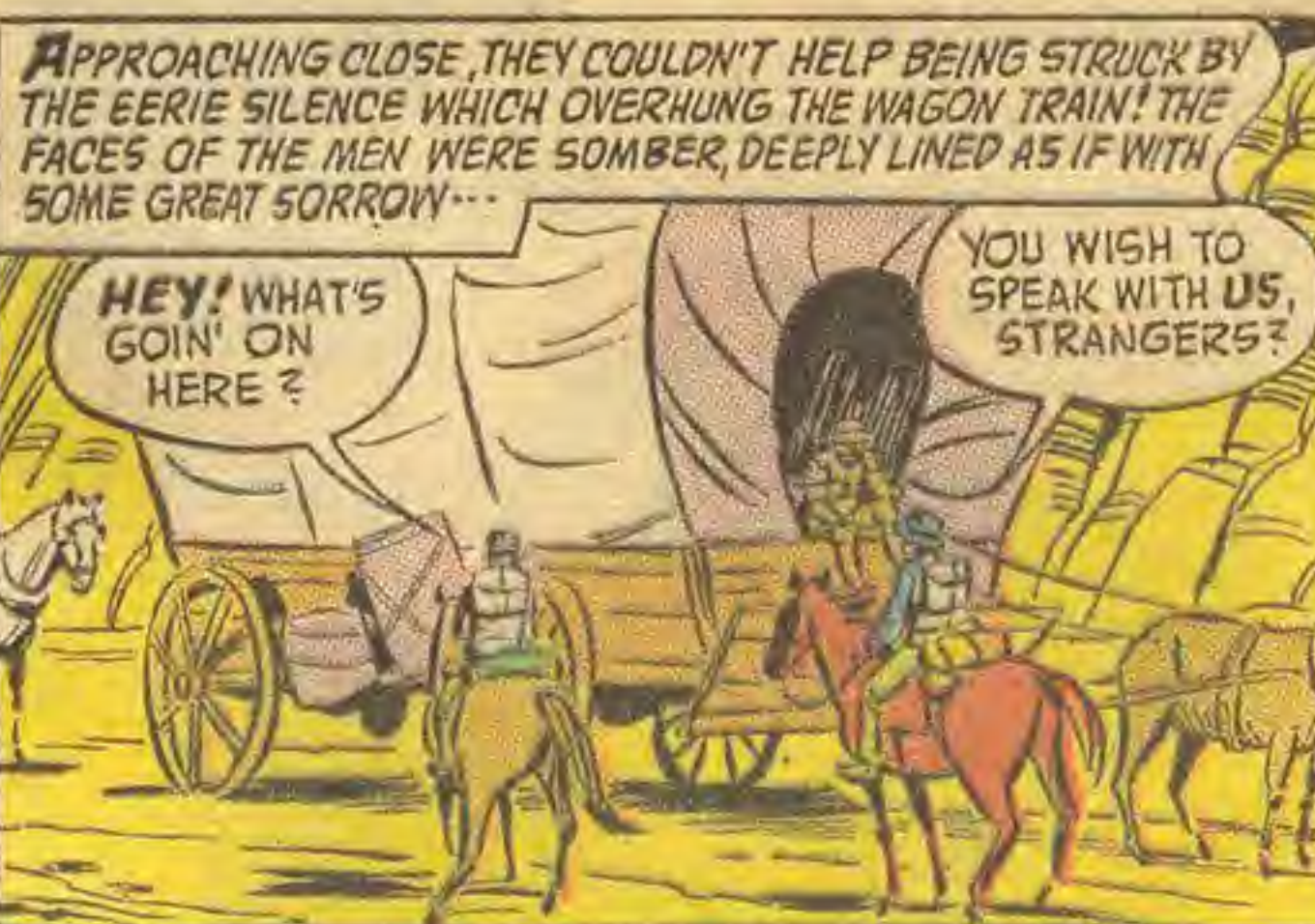
HEY, LOOK, BILL! IT'S A ...WAGON TRAIN!

MUST BE THEY'RE SHOOTIN' A WESTERN MOVIE AROUND HERE! LET'S GO DOWN AND HAVE A LOOK-SEE!



FUNNY... I DON'T SEE ANY CAMERAS OR TRUCKS AROUND... OR ANY **SIGN** OF MOVIE EQUIPMENT!

YEAH... IT'S MIGHTY STRANGE!



APPROACHING CLOSE, THEY COULDN'T HELP BEING STRUCK BY THE EERIE SILENCE WHICH OVERHUNG THE WAGON TRAIN! THE FACES OF THE MEN WERE SOMBER, DEEPLY LINED AS IF WITH SOME GREAT SORROW...

HEY! WHAT'S GOIN' ON HERE?

YOU WISH TO SPEAK WITH US, STRANGERS?



MIND EXPLAININ' WHAT YOU'RE **DOIN'** HERE? WHAT'S THE IDEA OF THESE **COVERED WAGONS**? WHERE'D YOU **GET** SUCH MUSEUM PIECES?

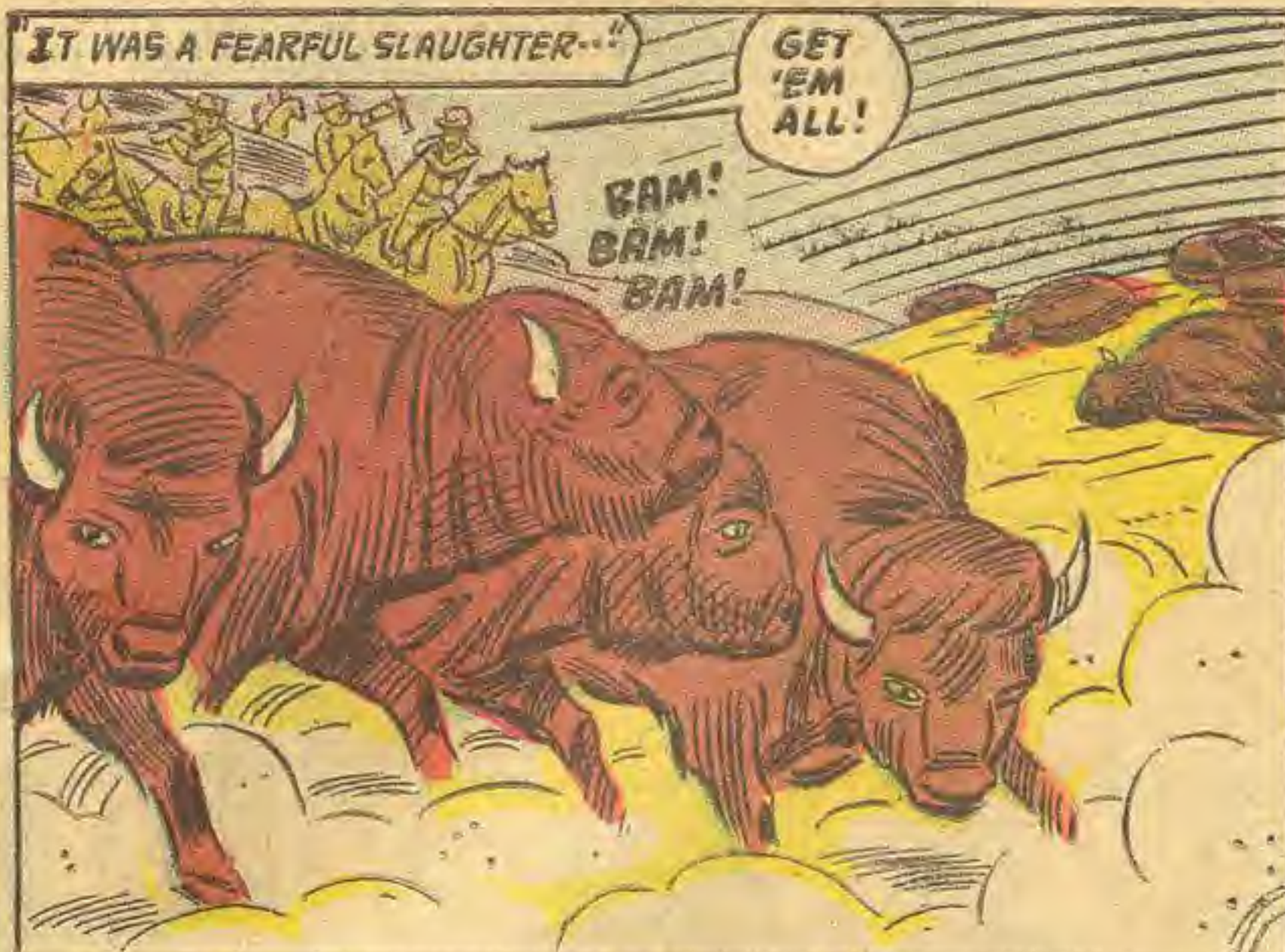
YOU SHALL KNOW **ALL**, STRANGERS! IT IS OUR FATE TO **SPEAK** THE EVIL WE DID... MORE THAN A CENTURY AGO!

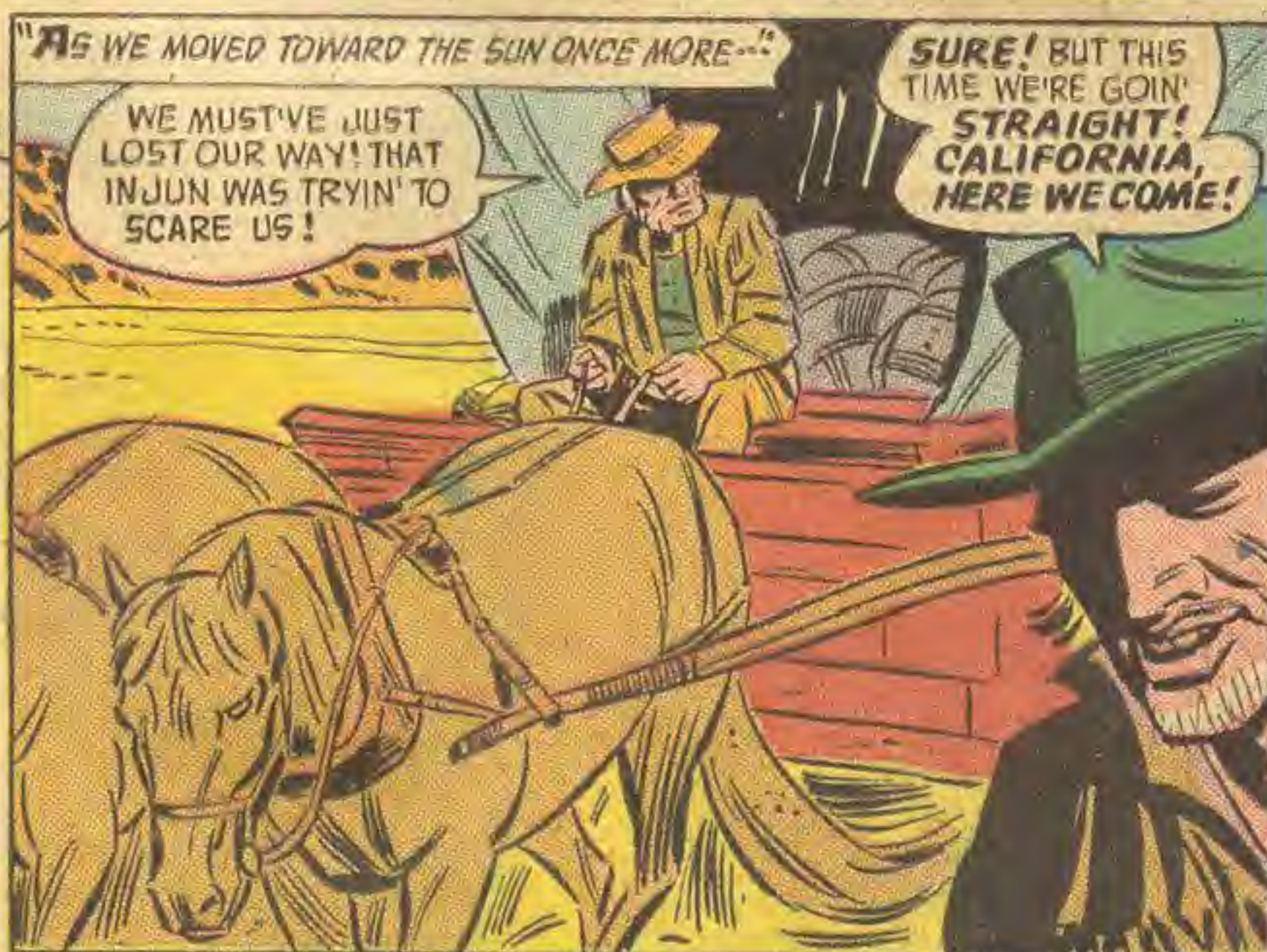
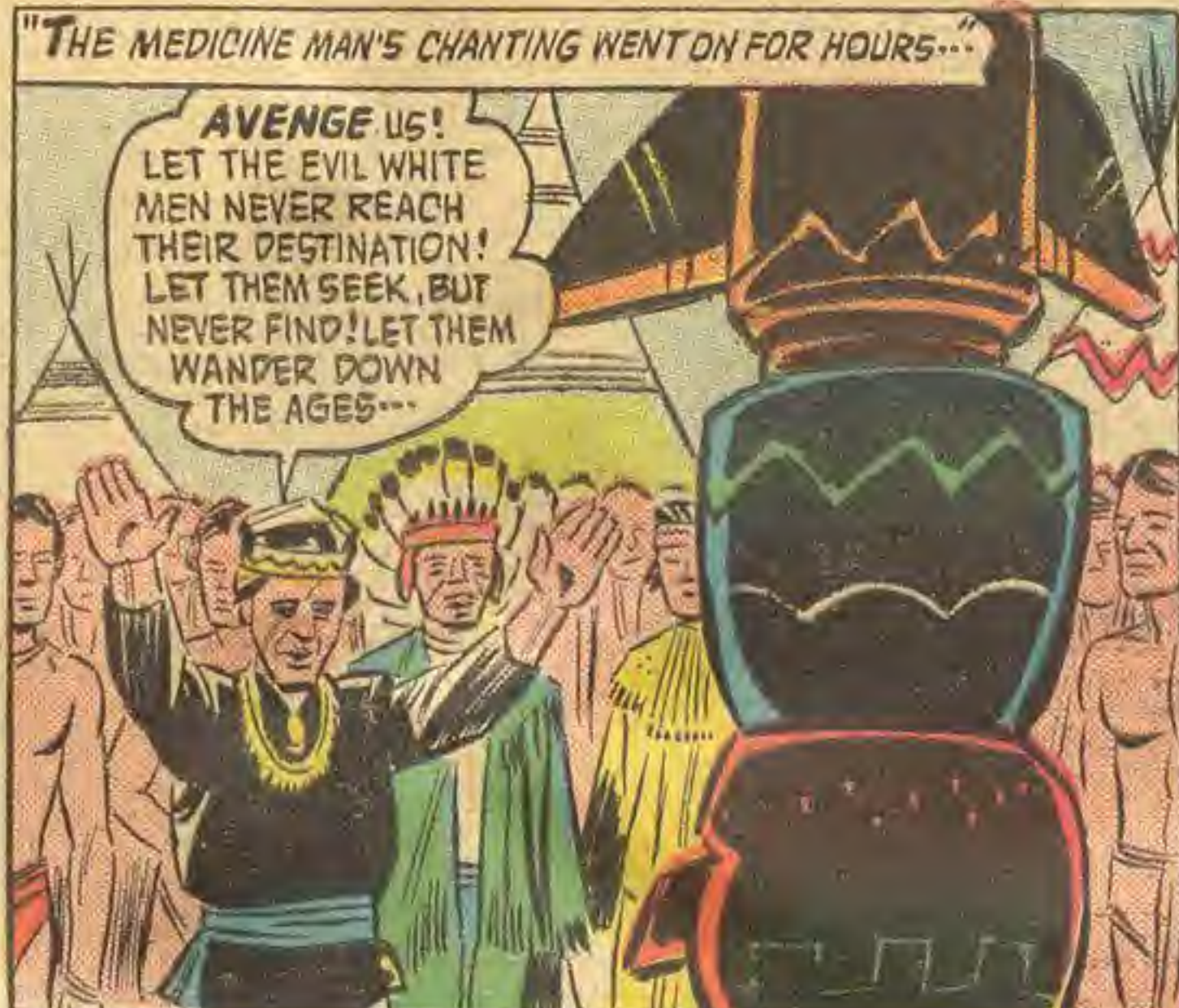


HUH? A CENTURY AGO? WHAT ARE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT?

HEAR OUR STORY AND LEARN FROM IT... LEST VENGEANCE FIND **YOU** OUT TOO! IT STARTED IN 1850... WE WERE HEADED FOR CALIFORNIA ...AND **GOLD**!







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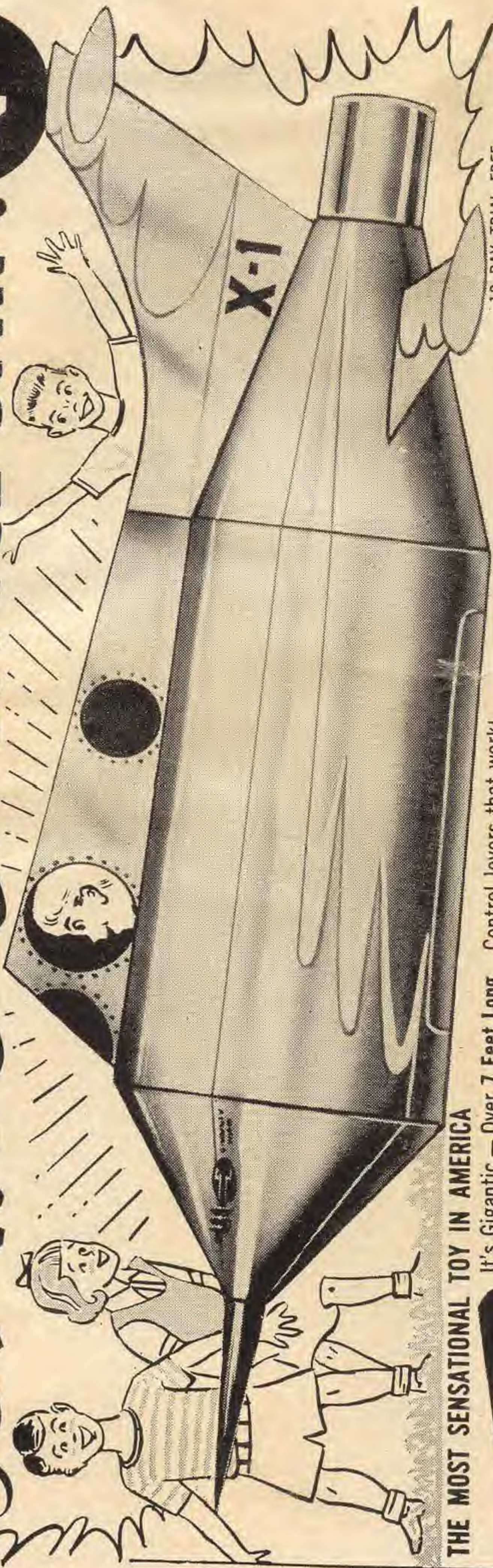
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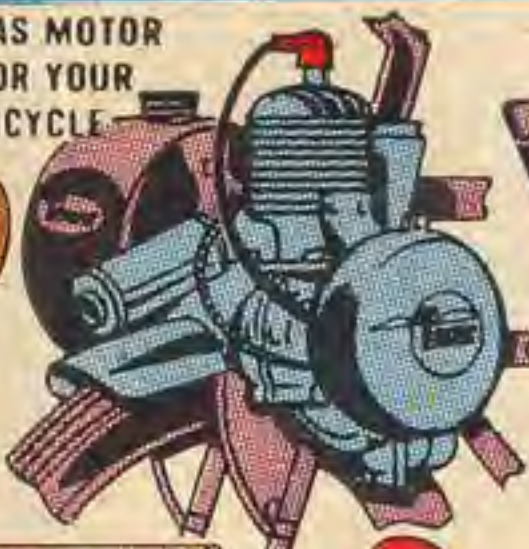
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